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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Geoffrey Haswell et al	:	
Application No. 10/529,604	:	DECISION ON PETITIONS
Filed: November 10, 2006	:	TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER
Attorney Docket No. 040857/290671	:	37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)
	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(i), filed May 23, 2006, to make the above-identified application special based on the invention materially enhancing the quality of the environment as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section V. This is also a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(ii), filed May 23, 2006, to make the above-identified application special based on the invention materially contributing to the development or conservation of energy resources as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section VI.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(i) is **DISMISSED**.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(i) and MPEP § 708.02, Section V: Environmental Quality, must state that special status is sought because the invention materially enhances the quality of the environment by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of basic life-sustaining natural elements. If the disclosure is not clear on its face that the claimed invention materially enhances the quality of the environment by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of one of the basic life-sustaining natural elements, the petition must be accompanied by a statement by the applicant, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office explaining how the materiality standard is met. No fee is required.

The present invention relates to a power generator for mounting inside a pneumatic tyre. While petitioner's invention may relate to a unit comprising a piezoelectric-based power generator and associated control circuitry for mounting inside a pneumatic tire, there is no factual evidence that the invention "materially enhances the quality of the environment of mankind by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of the basis-life sustaining natural elements." The contribution of petitioner's invention, while beneficial to the environment, does not rise to the level intended by the Rule.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(2)(ii) is **DISMISSED**.

A grantable petition to make an application special under 37 CFR 1.102(c)(ii) and MPEP § 708.02, Section VI: Energy, must state how the invention materially contributes to (A) the discovery or

development of energy resources, or (B) the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources. If the disclosure is not clear on its face that the claimed invention materially contributes category (A) or (B), the petition must be accompanied by a statement by the applicant, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office explaining how the materiality standard is met. Examples of inventions in category (A) would be developments in fossil fuels (natural gas, coal, and petroleum), hydrogen fuel technologies, nuclear energy, solar energy, etc. Category (B) would include inventions relating to the reduction of energy consumption in combustion systems, industrial equipment, household appliances, etc. No fee is required.

The instant petition fails to support that the claimed invention will materially contribute to the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources or is a discovery or development of energy resources. While petitioner states the invention eliminates the need for a battery or other power source, the petition does not clearly explain how applicant's invention would actually contribute materially to the conservation of energy. Additionally, the petition does not clearly explain how the claimed invention materially contributes to the discovery or development of energy resources.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

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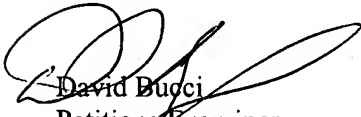
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By FAX: (571) 273-8300

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Irvin Dingle at 571-272-3210.

All other inquiries concerning either the examination or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

The application is being forwarded to the Technology Center Art Unit 2834 for action in its regular turn.


David Bucci
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions